

**U.S. District Court
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:19-cv-00965-CKK**

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD v. UNITED
STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY et al
Assigned to: Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 04/05/2019
Jury Demand: None
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of
Information Act
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

**CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES
BOARD**

represented by **Margaret Elaine Meckenstock**
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V.

Defendant

**UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY**

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Defendant

**NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC
SAFETY ADMINISTRATION**

represented by **April Denise Seabrook**
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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
04/05/2019	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-6043290) filed by CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet Civil Cover Sheet,

		# <u>2</u> Summons Summons to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, # <u>3</u> Summons Summons to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, # <u>4</u> Summons Summons to U.S. Attorney General, # <u>5</u> Summons Summons to U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia)(Hoffman, Ryan) (Entered: 04/05/2019)
04/08/2019		Case Assigned to Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly. (zef,) (Entered: 04/08/2019)
04/08/2019	<u>2</u>	SUMMONS (4) Issued Electronically as to NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(zef,) (Entered: 04/08/2019)
04/12/2019	<u>3</u>	ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR CASES ASSIGNED TO JUDGE COLLEEN KOLLAR-KOTELLY. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 4/12/19. (DM) (Entered: 04/12/2019)
04/17/2019	<u>4</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Margaret Elaine Meckenstock on behalf of CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (Meckenstock, Margaret) (Entered: 04/17/2019)
05/14/2019	<u>5</u>	Unopposed MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer re <u>1</u> Complaint,, by NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (Seabrook, April) (Entered: 05/14/2019)
05/14/2019		MINUTE ORDER. The Court is in receipt of Defendants' <u>5</u> Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to File Answer, and Memorandum in Support Thereof. Currently, Defendants' Answer is due May 17, 2019. Defense counsel requests an extension of thirty days due to the complex nature of the subject matter of the FOIA request, the need to confer with agency-Defendants, and other litigation commitments. Defendants' Motion is GRANTED. Defendants are ORDERED to submit their Answer by JUNE 18, 2019. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 5/14/2019. (lcckk3) (Entered: 05/14/2019)
05/14/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Answer due by 6/18/2019. (dot) (Entered: 05/20/2019)
06/18/2019	<u>6</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.(Seabrook, April) (Entered: 06/18/2019)
06/19/2019	<u>7</u>	SCHEDULING ORDER. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 6/19/2019. (lcckk3) (Entered: 06/19/2019)
06/19/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Meet & Confer Statement due by 7/16/2019. (dot) (Entered: 06/24/2019)
07/16/2019	<u>8</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD. (Meckenstock, Margaret) (Entered: 07/16/2019)
07/29/2019		MINUTE ORDER. The Court is in receipt of the parties' <u>8</u> Joint Status Report. Defendant EPA reports that it anticipates issuing its final response to part 12 of Plaintiff's FOIA request no later than August 7, 2019 and its final response to parts 1-11 no later than August 16, 2019. Defendant NHTSA has already issued its final response. The parties disagree on the next steps moving forward. Plaintiff requests that the Court grant partial summary judgment briefing on NHTSA's assertion of Exemption 5 with respect to records responsive to part 8 of Plaintiff's FOIA request. Plaintiff states that immediate action is required due to an impending deadline for submitting comments to a regulatory proposal issued by EPA and NHTSA. The Court will not allow partial summary judgment briefing at this time. Conducting summary judgment briefing on NHTSA's claimed exemption before EPA has completed its response is not an efficient use of the parties' or the Court's resources. Plaintiff's request for more immediate access to NHTSA's withheld information does not outweigh the inefficiency that bifurcating Plaintiff's FOIA request and conducting two rounds of summary judgment would cause. Instead, the Court ORDERS the parties to file a further Joint Status Report on AUGUST 16, 2019, advising the Court on the status of the matter and recommending steps for moving forward. Signed by Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on 7-29-2019. (lcckk3) (Entered: 07/29/2019)